

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/339,430

Applicant(s)

JONES, RICHARD A.

Examiner

Lin Ye

Art Unit

2615

✓

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 21 March 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17, 19, 20 and 2-14 (renumbered as 1-16 respectively).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 June 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's amendment filed on 03/21/2005 has been fully considered and they are persuasive.

Referring claim 17, the applicant argues that the amended claim 17 discloses the shaft of the first positioner is directly coupled to a boom so that the outer housing of the first positioner rotates to thereby cause the bracket fixed to the outer housing to rotate through a pan angle while the shaft of the second positioner (which is fixed to the opposite end of the bracket) is directly coupled to the camera so that the camera rotates with the shaft of the second positioner through a tilt angle. The examiner agrees that Ackles reference does not show or suggest this structure.

For claims 17-19 and 2-14, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest apparatus for remotely tilting and panning a camera head fixed to a boom, said apparatus comprising: a first and a second pressure-actuated positioner, said shafts of said positioners being vertically and orthogonally disposed with respect to one another, means for **directly** coupling said output shaft of said first positioner to said boom so that said outer housing of said positioner and bracket rotate through a pan angle in response to rotation of said output shaft of said first positioner relative to said outer housing; and means for **directly** coupling said output of said second positioner to said camera head so that said camera head rotates through a tilt angle in response to rotation of said output shaft of said second positioner and rotates through said pan angle in response to rotation of said outer housing of said first positioner; and used in combination with all of the other limitations of claim 17.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

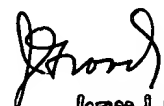
2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 - a. Arbuckle et al. U.S 6,793,415 discloses a slip ring assembly for using in a rotational camera.
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lin Ye whose telephone number is (571) 272-7372. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James J. Groody can be reached on (571) 272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lin Ye
April 25, 2005


James J. Groody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 262 2615